



Did You Know

Facts about NOAA and its Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill Response Capabilities

Did You Know ...

- ... Oil spill trajectory forecasts are a new disaster management tool developed by NOAA scientists? NOAA continuously fine-tunes its products to meet current needs, while developing tools for the future.
- ... Healthy marine ecosystems may recover quicker from disaster — even man-made events such as an oil spill? NOAA scientists and managers work together to understand the impacts humans have on the marine environment and how we can take steps to keep the ocean healthy.
- ... NOAA's Aircraft Operations Center maintains a fleet of 13 aircraft, including the Twin Otter used to observe marine mammals near an oil spill? Air and ocean platforms allow NOAA scientists to make direct observations of weather and ocean conditions to support disaster response with the best and freshest information possible.
- ... The more than 3 million recreational fishermen who use the Gulf of Mexico took 24 million fishing trips in 2008? NOAA values recreation in America's great outdoor spaces, and uses science and stewardship to make sure our citizens never have to travel far to enjoy healthy oceans and coasts.
- ... More than 50 percent of the nation's population live in coastal watershed counties that are vulnerable to coastal hazards like oil spills and storm surge? NOAA invests in the science to make communities resilient to natural disaster — lessening impacts and speeding recovery.
- ... 21 different species of marine mammals inhabit the Northern Gulf of Mexico? NOAA science helps communities to find ways to plan their use of oceans and coasts so that we can continue to enjoy the company of neighbors like wild dolphins and whales.
- ... The National Weather Service New Orleans/Baton Rouge Weather Forecast Office is providing special marine and weather forecasts for the spill site? Responders and emergency workers rely on NOAA science generated in real time to make the best decisions to protect human life and property.
- ... NOAA has linked the Gulf of Mexico Marine Mammal Strandings Network into the multiagency command center for the Gulf Coast oil spill in order to be ready for beached whales, dolphins and sea turtles? NOAA engages with communities and stakeholders to guard their interests and make sure they are become part of solutions for their homes and livelihoods.
- ... NOAA's Satellite Analysis Branch has provided "shapefiles" depicting the location of spilled oil? NOAA's investments in satellite technology give local communities time to brace for disaster to save lives and property.